FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTERS SPEAK ON DEMOCRATIC COMMUNITY

Costa Rica's Niehaus

PA192345 Tegucicalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1736 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Speech by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus at ceremony for the signing of document creating the Central American Democratic Community, at Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, San Jose, Costa Rica -- live]

[Text] Your Excellency Salvadoran Foreign Minister Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, Your Excellency Honduran Foreign Minister Col Cesar Elvir Sierra, Your Excellencies Mssrs Ambassadors, honorable heads of delegations, ladies and gentlemen:

As of today, 19 January 1982 becomes a historic date for Central America. By the sovereign will of the fraternal republics of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, the Central American Democratic Community is constituted today. As its name indicates, the basis of this community is the principle of democracy, which is profoundly rooted in our people's very selves.

Through 500 years, the Central American man, hit by misery, illiteracy, exploitation and the denial of his right to live in accordance with his human dignity, has known how to create, despite this, a solid democratic spirit. Very often, not to say almost always, circumstances have prevented his total or even partial enjoyment of that basic principle. However, our firm conviction about the nature of true human values and rights has kept us from abandoning the search for their full achievements.

If the measure of this community we are creating today is the principle of democracy, its purpose is to create the necessary circumstances for this principle to become effective and to fulfill its principal goal of providing the individual with a better and more dignified life, in peace and freedom.

In the course of the past few decades, and specifically during the last few years, the Central American countries have experienced a time of crisis and anxiety that is unprecedented in the history of the isthmus. To the gravity of a social situation resulting from an archaic and unjust structure inherited from colonial days, and to the highly unstable political situation that often results from the interests of internal power groups or foreign forces, we must add the serious economic international crisis that is currently hitting small, weak, geographically and economically limited republics in a particularly harsh fashion.

For the Central American nations, abrupt energy price hikes will have a very serious negative impact on their economies. Added to the world recession and to the marked decline in the prices of their principal export products, this completes a picture of pathetic dimensions, whose final results can only by chaos, (?since) there is no internationally coordinated policy for overcoming the crisis through effective cooperation among subjects of international law.

At the international level, there is awareness of all of this, as well as good will. The North-South dialogue and its most recent manifestation, the 1981 Cancun conference, have filled the Caribbean basin with hope. The so-called Nassau Group meeting also constitutes sufficient proof of the international desire to provide support for this area. Two Third World nations, Mexico and Venezuela, have given the first specific example of real and effective aid, using oil as an instrument of cooperation with our countries. The document we have just signed constitues a historic step in the process we have just outlined.

Representatives of our three fraternal countries; convinced of the principles that inspire the democratic lives of nations and with the firm will to achieve a more honorable existence for our peoples, we have gathered here in San Jose to tell the world about our problems and purposes.

As a testimony to democratic faith, we solemnly state that our greatest hopes lie in full respect for the fundamental rights of man; also, that our efforts are aimed at regional economic development, which can guarantee peace, respect for the individual and general welfare.

The creation of the Central American Democratic Community falls within the framework of and coincides with the special operational program designed to support the region's economic and social development. This program has been gradually forged this last year through the valuable contributions of various states and institutions. The participation of the ECLA office in Mexico and of the IDB, which on Monday 11 January was designated coordinator of the program, deserves special mention.

The Central American Democratic Community is not limited to the three nations that are its signatories. It has been conceived so that all Central American and Caribbean nations that share its democratic principles and goals can join it. To this effect, those countries can express their formal support for this significant event. Together we will present an effective and organized unity to those nations with greater resources, which share the points expressed in the instrument, so that they can collaborate with us in the achievement of the proposed goals. In this manner we will jointly achieve a real solution to our economic problems and a better world for our peoples, in the full enjoyment of democracy, freedom, peace and justice. Thank you very much. [applause]

El Salvador's Chavez Mena

PA192108 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1753 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Speech by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena at ceremony on the signing of document creating the Central American Democratic Community, at the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry in San Jose -- live]

[Excerpts] Dr Bernd Niehaus, foreign minister of the Republic of Costa Rica; Col Cesar Elvir Sierra, the excellent foreign minister of the Republic of Honduras; representatives of friendly countries; honorable members of the delegations of Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador; numerous representatives of the media; Central American compatriots:

We are gathered here to attend the birth, and pardon my lack of modesty, of the greatest regional institution of the century, an institution that has been created to find a formula to save the area's economy and to give the countries of the isthmus the democratic strength and social peace that the moment in which we live calls for.

Nobody ignores the fact that Central America is convulsed and is a center of world tension. Since the hour of our independence following a colonial period lasting 4 centuries, the heart of the great Central American fatherland has never been as excited as now, nor have its veins ever been so torn. With these signs, who could be so blind as not to recognize that at this moment a great Central American fatherland is being forged?

It is in line with the beloved desires of this popular awareness and this ancestral memory that we have gathered here today in San Jose to establish the Central American Democratic Community. This institution is born under the protection of the identical ideals of the peoples and Governments of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica. We hope to resolve the problems that weigh on the region, forging national policies coordinated among ourselves, within the framework of an overall plan to struggle in the political, economic and institutional fields so that the community can create a climate of security in which democratic values -- human values, moral values -- flourish. We will at the same time be able to (?identify) the reasons that may force us to change the structural causes of our underdevelopment and, likewise, to find in the developed countries an efficient and viable mechanism for these countries to contribute to the improvement of the [word indistinct] of our Central American peoples.

The developed countries -- and generally speaking, the countries with greater resources -- must individually or collectively become aware that Central America's democratic [word indistinct], which is found in the fervent desires of the member peoples to maintain the sovereignty inherent in [word indistinct] to (?travel) toward the future united with the greatest will and desire for fraternity.

We are three peoples who today integrate ourselves in the Central American Democratic Community. But our attitude is not (?sufficient), and even less is the will to [words indistinct]. The Central American Democratic Community should and must grow. It should and must (?become richer). It should and must forge [word indistinct] in the other sister nations of the region, since the sign that [words indistinct] is essentially positive and Central Americanist. The community is the expression of what we today (?establish) as an expression of the will of our peoples to reintegrate by virtue of their common (?bloody) destiny, to the [passage indistinct]. It is likewise a joint reply by El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica to the quest for [words indistinct] and the problem of [passage indistinct], so as to find stability, concord, peace and international confidence.

Within this concept, we make the nations of greater resources clear and concrete proposals, which urgently need to be satisfied if we are to overcome our grave and immediate economic problems. The peoples of El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica show our political will to join efforts, and that is why we have made the decision to take huge steps toward this enterprise, so as to respond to the challenge and the signs of the times.

We want democracy, liberty, development and social justice. We definitely want peace -- the peace of the Central American region. It is the peace to which all mankind aspires and that the people of Central America desire. The efforts for peace are the most appreciated desire of all men of good will. They reflect the most noble attitude imaginable, since with it we achieve the supreme values of an excellent state, law, justice, security, common good and the full realization of the human being.

With this transcendental step we respond to the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of Central America, oriented toward maintaining -- with their neighbors, their compatriots and friends -- an atmosphere of confidence, cooperation, and exchange, based on mutual respect, good faith and solidarity and human fraternity. This, gentlemen, is our purpose and may God enlighten us in our path. Thank you.

Honduras' Elvir Sierra

PA192302 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1744 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Speech by Honduran Foreign Minister Cesar Elvir Sierra at ceremony for the signing of document creating the Central American Democratic Community, at Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, in San Jose, Costa Rica -- live]

[Text] Your Excellencies, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena, Ambassadors (and) chiefs of missions accredited to Costa Rica, ladies and gentlemen:

Today, the Central American Democratic Community has been born with the unswerving faith and the [word indistinct] of our peoples. This is a momentous and firm step in the life of the countries on the isthmus. It represents a fraternal landmark of great significance for the present and future of the region. In addition, it poses a demand for effective solidarity from democratic countries with greater resources.

The Central American peoples hold vividly in their minds the heroic deeds and efforts that were made [words indistinct] to achieve the grandeur of our great fatherland, with the strength that results from cooperation and unity. Under different names but always prompted by the same imperative needs and in pursuit of the same goals, we Central Americans have tried [word indistinct] cooperation in the political and economic fields to give our America the [words indistinct].

This community now [words indistinct], with strong ties of solidarity and understanding and a common (?collective) effort, the development of our nations under a framework of well-being and democracy, reflecting the thought and aspirations we Central Americans have always harbored. The doctrine inspiring the document we have signed contains essential rules for (?carrying out) a constructive effort in these nations, whose position in the midsection of the hemisphere gives them a geopolitical importance that transcends the meridians that bound the area in the north and south.

The troubled world situation, the current political picture and the growing economic crisis have brought us problems that require pragmatic decisions and immediate (?action) for the survival of our institutions and the defense of human dignity as an (?essential) right of man. For this reason, we have embodied in the document we have signed our unshakeable will for democracy and our determination to solve, in a concerted and solidaristic manner, the social, political and economic problems that challenge our creative ability and our willingness to take action.

However, in order to be able to (?create) and to take action, a climate of confidence, security and stability is indispensable. This is the primary goal of the members of the community. With a democratic commitment, we recognize that our peoples are fully entitled to choose their rulers through elections, which must not only be completely free but which must be a true expression of their sovereign will within a legal framework.

Under the written civic legacy of our people and the steadfast and total guarantee of our armed forces, the country's highest authorities, as well as municipal authorities, were recently elected in Honduras. The freedom and legitimacy of these elections have been fully recognized internationally. We will shortly be able to say the same about the conclusion of electoral processes to be held soon by other sister nations. With a democratic commitment, we expect to foster education among our people and to implement health programs as essential foundations of their development. With a democratic devotion, we reaffirm our respect for and determination to defend man's fundamental rights, his dignity, the worthiness of human beings and the promotion of their social progress.

With a democratic devotion and the awareness that we live in a world fraught with violence, we reassert our political solidarity and [words indistinct] and our right to collective defense under the specific rules of American international law. With democratic devotion and a strong determination to struggle, we condemn terrorism and subversion, the deceptive weapons with which totalitarianism seeks to destabilize governments, to subjugate peoples and to enslave free men.

We also assert that the arms race in Central America, which through the purchase of tanks and cannon, is consuming resources that should be invested in food, medicine, schools and roads, is an act of injustice to our peoples and a source of tension among states, which regard it as a real and clear threat to peace.

We sincerely hope that other countries in the region that uphold the same principles and pursue the same goals as our newborn community will join it. We also harbor the firm hope that other democratic countries that possess greater resources, inspired by the [word indistinct] and the same ideals, will give us their cooperation [words indistinct]. With the help of God and the determination of men, the Central American Democratic Community will contribute effectively to the achievement of a better destiny for our peoples [words indistinct].

We congratulate [name indistinct] of Costa Rica, particularly his excellency the former president of the republic and his excellency the former foreign affairs minister, for the fact that this free capital of San Jose has been the birthplace of the Central American Democratic Community. We express our sincere gratitude to the Costa Rican people for their great and generous hospitality. Thank you very much.

GUATEMALA

EAST GERMAN NEWSPAPERS INTERVIEW GUERRILLA LEADERS

BERLINER ZEITUNG 12 Jan

AU181742 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 12 Jan 82 p 4

[Christoph Linke interview: "The Guatemalan People Intensify the Struggle: BERLINER ZEITUNG [BZ] Spoke With Representatives of the Country's Guerrilla Movement" -- date and place not given]

[Text] In the past few weeks, the people's struggle against the Lucas dictatorship has distinctly intensified. For this reason our staff worker Christoph Linke spoke with two official representatives of the armed resistance. Victoria Solares of the "Poor People's Guerilla Army" (EGP) and Ramon Ortiz of the "Rebel Armed Forces" (FAR) report on the joint struggle of the Alliance of Four which came into existence in 1980, to which the "Revolutionary Armed People's Organization (ORPA) and the Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT) also belong.

BZ: What is the immediate ofjective pursued by the Guatemalan revolutionary organizations with their present armed actions?

Ramon Ortiz: We are now in a phase of expanding the guerrilla struggle to all areas of the country. After the dictatorship of Gen Lucas Garcia has openly institutionalized the reactiuonary terror and after almost all forms of political opposition were banned, our organizations have little by little switched to an armed resistance struggle.

The center of our area of operations is located in the northern highlands, in the Chimaltenango, Quiche and El Peten Provinces. This is where the majority of the half-proletarian Indian rural populace lives which is most sharply confronted with the big landowners and foreign enterprises as a result of the plundering of their regions rich in oil and nickel. This is where our struggle is suported most actively and where the most favorable conditions for our operation are.

BZ: There was already once, in the years 1962-66, a guerrilla movement in Guatemala which disintegrated, however, because of political disunity. What is the difference between today's struggle and the struggle at that time?

Victoria Solares: The guerrilla movement of that time most likely lacked the required contact with the masses. This is basically different today. It is true that the civilian government tried after 1966 to cut the ground from under the revolutionary struggle by fashioning a stratum of farmers with medium-sized holdings by means of reforms and by carrying out a limited literacy campaign and broad ideolgical campaigns, but all this could hamper the struggle only temporarily. After a certain time, the peasant realized that all these measures did not at all change the old exploitative conditions, all the more so since the forcible expulsions from the land were not discontinued. Thus the readiness grew again to commit onself politically and to also take up arms.

BZ: What kind of social base to the present guerrilla formations possess in detail?

Ramon Ortiz: We have the greatest support among the landless and poor peasants, among seasonal laborers who are briefly in the Indian villages. After all, the majority of the Guatemalan population is of Indian origin and lives in the countryside. Our connections with the national committee of trade unity and with the youth leagues are also good.

In addition, each organization, in keeping with the composition of its membership, is linked with very definite classes and strata.

Thus the FAR, for example, relies on the peasants of the highlands and on some trade union federations, the EGP on the Quiche Indians in the province of the same name, ORPA organizes the self-defense of the peasants in various regions of the country and has begun to form a city cuerrilla group and, finally, the PGT possesses some support among the workers movement.

BZ: Do these four military formations now also possess a civilian political parallel organization such, as for example, the "Farabundo Marti" Liberation Front which collaborates with the Revolutionary Democratic Front?

Victoria Solares: No, that does not yet exist in Guatemala. The broadest democratic alliance now is the "Democratic Front Against Repression" in which almost 200 different organizations are now participating. Its orientation is above all humanitarian. It supports families whose dependents have been arrested, kidnapped or murdered. But this is not yet a politically effective organization which could prepare the people for a revolutionary uprising. As a matter of fact, our four guerrilla formations are not members since this is a front of organizations which are operating legally. But we maintain very good contacts with many participants.

The situation is different with the "People's Front of 31 January," which sprang up 1 year ago. It recognizes the leading role of the Alliance of Four in the revolutionary liberation struggle and strives to enlist in the revolutionary struggle trade unionists, peasants, students and the residents of the slums who have been conspicuously radicalized in the past few years. The people's front is still in a development stage and therefore no final concerted cooperation could take place.

BZ: What is the situation concerning cooperation within the Alliance of Four? Does there already exist a uniform military leadership or even a coherent revolutionary army?

Ramon Ortiz: Our road to unity was very long and the process of gradually growing together has not yet been completed. The establishment of the Alliance of Four in the fall of 1980 was an important first step. The agreement on regularly coordinating the tactical forms of struggle in November 1981 was another step. We are now in the process of jointly preparing and carryingout all military operations.

To the extent to which we succeed in consolidating unity we shall also come closer to our goal; the establishment of a revolutionary democratic government which puts an end to the reprisals against the people, changes the unjust property conditions and eliminates once and for all exploitation and discrimination.

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 13 Jan

AU181728 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 13 Jan 82 p 6

[Jochen Preussler interview: "In Guatemala; Struggle Against the Terror Regime: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND interview with Reginaldo Soto About the Situation in the Councry" -- date and place not given]

[Text] Reginaldo Soto, member of the Political Commission of the Central Committee of the Guatemala Labor Party, (GPA), gave our editorial staff member Jochen Preussler an opportunity for an interview about his people's liberation struggle against the Lucas dictatorship.

"The political crisis in my home country is characterized by the fact that in view of the institutionalized terror the people have no chance to assert their interests peacefully. Only one alternative remains for the people; to overthrow the military dictatorship of Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia, which is supported by imperialism. In this confrontation, the democratic and revolutionary forces are employing all possible means including armed resistance," Reginaldo Soto stated. "As events show, the freedom fighters have already achieved remarkable organizational and military successes. The people's struggle has also broken out in Guatemala."

The Guatemalan communist noted with respect to the strength of the democratic, revolutionary forces: "The people's movement against the dictatorship has gained in scope. It is now important to further unite both the civilian opposition and the various armed resistance organizations and to overcome the still existing differences of opinion which are mainly of a tactical nature."

Among the resistance organizations operating in the country are the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) and the Revolutionary Armed People's Organization (ORPA), which were founded 1970 and 1979 respectively, and are particularly depending on the rural Indian population. Both organizations uphold revolutionary-patriotic, anti-imperialist and antiologarchic goals. This also applies to the third force -- the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) which continues the armed struggle of the sixties and mainly undertakes actions in cities and major villages. In addition, there are a number of minor resistance groups.

The Guatemalan Labor Party, Reginaldo Soto noted, today is an experienced, well-organized political force with close ties to the working people's mass organizations. "Since 1978, the party has also played a major rule in the armed liberation struggle. With all possible vigor, it supports the aspirations to action unity because only joint action of all opponents of the dictatorship can lead our people out of poverty and oppression. Those elements that separate must be put aside and an agreement on a minimum acceptable platform must be achieved. Negotiations are in progress.

Asked why the Indians, who make up 53 percent of the population, have joined the revolutionary movement in such great numbers, Reginaldo Soto said: "They have always lived at the periphery of society, since the days of the Spanish colonialization. They have always been the ones who were most discriminated against, and they have been expelled from their land by fire and sword in the course of the advance of capitalist forces in agriculture. This process has continued up to the present day, all the more so now that rich oil deposits have been discovered in Indian areas. The Indians today make up the largest part of the army of the unemployed; for them the question really is one of sheer survival. This is why they have joined the side of those who protect them, who want to give the land to those people who are cultivating it and to whom it formerly belonged. The Indians possess great qualities as freedom strugglers. They are principled and persevering. The despot Lucas can corrupt many people but he cannot corrupt a fighting Indian."

In conclusion, Reginaldo Soto stressed that the realization of the need for the unification of all opponents of the dictatorship is growing. The clique around Lucas Garcia is isolated from the people. Today, everybody sees that those people who pretended to be speaking on behalf of freedom are daily trampling freedom underfoot in Central America and in the Caribbean as well as elsewhere in the world. In the past 26 years, nearly 100,000 patriots have been murdered by the reaction in Guatemala alone, he said. As a matter of fact, the tyranny now wants to disguise its bloody regime with the cloak of phony elections.

"But this will fail. We do not underrate the domestic reaction nor the danger of an imperialist intervention from the outside. But the balance of forces in the world is different today that it was in 1954 -- the year of the downfall of the progressive Arbenz government in Guatemala brought about by the CIA. Imperialism must also take into consideration the historical facts in Central America.

NICARAGUA

BARRICADA TERMS DEMOCRATIC COMMUNITY 'ERROR'

PA202028 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1634 GMT 20 Jan 82

[Text] Managua, 20 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Sandinist newspaper BARRICADA today described the establishment of the Central American Democratic Community by the Salvadoran, Honduran and Costa Rican Governments a "regrettable error."

In a front page editorial, the newspaper, which is the official organ of the FSLN, stated that the resolution signed by the three foreign ministers in San Jose, Costa Rica, yesterday "ties the hands" of the new governments that will soon take office in Central America.

In the opinion of the Nicaraguan newspaper, the agreement which establishes the triple alliance "already implies that countries such as Nicaragua and Panama will be ignored." It indicated that the positions of those two countreis at the OAS Assembly in St Lucia "are already known."

The editorial stressed that Nicaragua was not invited to the "hastily organized" meetings which concluded with the creation of the Central American Democratic Community. It also indicated that during recent Central American meetings, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto was not told of the plan to establish the triple alliance in the Costa Rican capital.

"It is not true that such resolutions (on the creation of the community) are going to solve the deep political tensions in the region, particularly those in El Salvador and Guatemala, and much less reduce the armed resistance in those countries, the newspaper stated. According to BARRICADA, the aspect of most concern regarding the Central American Democratic Community is that it emerged following the visit to Costa Rica of James Buckley, U.S. assistant secretary of state for economic affairs.

"Nicaragua cannot recognize this decision as just. Neither can Nicaragua consider the decision a political solution that will lead to the establishment of peace in the region," the Sandinist newspaper stated.

EL NUEVO DIARIO, another Managua newspaper, stated in a front page headline that the community is "suspicious." In the meeting in San Jose on Tuesday, the foreign ministers of Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica stated that they were establishing the democratic community "based on the principles of solidarity in the face of the region's economic, political and social problems." The document was signed at the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry in the presence of the diplomatic corps accredited to Costa Rica.

Further Comment

PA210134 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jan 82

[Station commentary: "The San Jose Tripartite Agreement, or the Old Organization of Central American States in Disguise"]

[Text] The advances of the liberating movements in Central America, encouraged by the Nicaraguan people's revolutionary triumph, disturb international reaction and drive the civilian, military and civilian-military regimes in Central America to desperation, for they see their own imminent downfall in the advance of the people. Through the victory of the Sandinist popular revolution and the definite defeat of the Somozist bourgeois mlitary regime, the military organization that was imperialism's gendarme on the isthmus -- the center of repression in Central America under Somoza and his Natinal Guard -- was dismembered and imperialism has now lost its watchdog in the area.

The dominating native minorities, in turn, suffered the loss of the instrument of coordination for their repressive actions against their people, which was annihilated, along with the Somozist National Guard, by the Nicaraguan people when they rose up in arms. Thus died the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, and with it the political organization of Central American States, ODECA.

Today, those same Central American reactionary forces appear to have inspired the regimes of Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica to revive that political corpse in the face of their inability to stop the advance of the democratic and liberating forces of Central America.

That is the only reason for the three countries' foreign ministers to create the so-called Central American Democratic Community, supposedly as an instrument for restoring and bolstering the institutions that strive for peace, freedom and development in the area and to create a climate of security in which to promote democratic values and condemn foreign intervention, among other things.

Our observations are based on the conditions that determined the resurrection of this corpse, its ambivalence of purpose and the nature of some of its components. In the first place, subjective discrimination is not the best instrument to use on behalf of peace, stability, democracy and human rights. One cannot speak of unrestricted respect and defense of human rights, or of opposition to foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the other states that comprise the democratic nations of Central America when one of the parties to such a proclamation is a government that leads repression against its own people and that is known internationally for its plundering actions.

Consequently, the new ODECA, by its postulates and its origins, comes to life not as a measure by which to solve the area's problems but as a factor of dissent, an instrument of the reactionary minorities of Central America and a device that opposes the aspirations for social justice, freedom and peace of the peoples of the area.

NEW AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON DISCUSSES RELATIONS

PA171920 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Jan 82 p 10

[Text] In his first interview as Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, Francisco Fiallos Navarro has told BARRICADA that absolute respect for Nicaragua's self-determination and sovereignty would serve to improve the two countries' relations. "If the United States respects that unwavering Nicaraguan principle, as I think it will, we can then develop ties, even strong ties, of cooperation," Fiallos Navarro said.

He added that it is well known that the relations between the U.S. Government and the National Reconstruction Government have been difficult since last year, as a result of the suspension of financial aid and the strong statements and even direct accusations that the Reagan administration has made against the Sandinist peoples revolution, particularly in terms of El Salvador: "But I have the hope that we can overcome all of these problems and develop a better understanding between the two countries in the near future," Fiallos Navarro said.

Fiallos Navarro indicated that for both Nicaragua and the United States it is advisable that good relations be maintained, since any conflict harms the development of their foreign policy. Fiallos stressed that it is important for the United States to maintain good relations with Nicaragua, because the Sandinist people's revolution is the result of a struggle that expresses the Latin American people's rebellion against social injustice. It is a revolution that now has its own projects and is shaping its own destiny, building a just and democratic society.

"The fact is that Nicaragua is experiencing a situation of stability in the area. It is a revolution with world prestige and friends. If one opposes it, one is not only going against a group of leaders but against a people who paid for their struggle with food and sacrifice. This revolution is seen by other people as a hope," the Nicaraguan ambassador in Washington said.

Fiallos Navarro said that the Sandinist people's revolution is an irreversible historical trend and that the most intelligent thing would be to help it, so that it will bring about more positive results. "To destroy it means to destroy the hopes of other peoples," Fiallos Navarro said.

Speaking about U.S.-Nicaraguan relations, Ambassador Fiallos indicated that since the frank talk between Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto and his U.S. counterpart, Alexander Haig, in St Lucia, relations have improved. This is reflected in the fact that Fiallos' appointment has been approved and Nicaragua is about to grant its approval to the new U.S. ambassador in Nicaragua.

Described as a methodical and intelligent man, the new ambassador to the United States is a lawyer with a degree from the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, an expert in financial law with studies in Harvard University and a political sciences doctorate from Boston University in the United States. Before becoming ambassador, he was deputy foreign minister, university professor and Nicaraguan ambassador to Canada. He has been a member of the FSLN since since 1977.

OPPOSITION LEADERS ARRESTED IN COSTA RICA

PA162346 Paris AFP in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jan 82

[Text] San Jose, 15 Jan (AFP) -- Two Nicaraguan counterrrevolutionary commanders, Pablo Duarte and Noel Quintanilla Hernandez, have been arrested by the police in northern Costa Rica, Public Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona reported today. A third commander, "El Comanche," also a leader of Somozist groups which have been located in Costa Rica recently, is being pursued at this moment and it is suspected that he is somewhere in San Jose suffering from a bullet wound, said Carmona.

Duarte and Quintanilla were captured in the area of Los Chiles, northern Costa Rica, near the Nicaraguan border, where counterrevolutionary mercenary camps were found recently. This is where 10 tents with a capacity for 50 men were found, together with food which was still warm, abandoned by the Somozists when they were alerted to the proximity of the Costa Rican rural and civil guard. The individual who alerted them was arrested and will be tried by the courts, the minister said.

Carmona said last week that the counterrevolutionaries now operating along the northern border are "Somozist and former Sandinist mercenaries" who are motivated by money and not a specific ideology. One of the two captured commanders, Pablo Duarte, was known in Somozist circles as "Oscar Segundo." The title of "Oscar Primero" was reserved for the commander in chief, El Comanche, whose real name is not yet known.

The Costa Rican Government has assured Nicaragua that Costa Rica will not be used by armed forces groups trying to destabilize the Sandinist regime.

MEETING WITH COSTA RICAN OFFICIAL ON BORDER ISSUE

PA162105 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 13 Jan 82 p 14

[Text] Commander Luis Carrion, deputy interior minister of Nicaragua; and his Costa Rican counterpart, Harry Wohlstein, met yesterday noon at the Costa Rican Customs Office conference room on the two countries' border. The two men exchanged points of view on and coordinated means for improving vigilance in border areas in order to prevent the enemy forces in either country from using their territory to create guerrilla groups attempting to destabilize the other country's government. Also participating in the talks were the military heads of their respective border areas, those responsible for immigration in either country and the ambassadors accredited to each of the sister republics.

At the end of the meeting, the officials disclosed that Costa Rica had charged that there were several incursions by members of the Sandinist Peoples Army onto Costa Rican soil. These instances were dismissed by the two officials, however, as being isolated cases. It was argued that they did not compromise the position of the Nicaraguan military organizations, but showed a lack of knowledge or border areas on the part of some Nicaraguan soldiers.

At the same meeting, control mechanisms to prevent such actions from happening in the future were agreed upon, as well as join means of communications for improving the surveillance on groups trying to turn the border areas into training grounds for people who wish to destabilize either government.

During the meeting, they discussed the matter of counterrevolutionary groups residing in Costa Rica. These groups are trying to turn Costa Rican soil into a base for attacking the Sandinist government with impunity. As they left the meeting, the two officials refused to comment on their discussions. They did point out, however, that neither country will allow the existence of armed groups on their respective territories.

The Costa Rican deputy minister of public security, Harry Wohlstein, said that they were aware that some Nicaraguans, enemies of the Sandinist government, were moving freely around Costa Rica, under the free circulation allowed by his country's democracy. He said that if found acting against the law, these Nicaraguans would be expelled from the country.

Regarding the camps recently discovered in Los Chiles and Medio Queso, Wohlstein explained that they had found medicine, food and tents very close to the border with Nicaragua. The deputy minister added that in order to keep this from happening in the future, they had set up a large operation and were searching the area. He also pointed out that a census will be taken of all Nicaraguans living on both sides of the frontier in order to directly control activities that might take place there.

Meanwhile, Costa Rican sources have indicated that some 30 men, apparently training in the area, had fled into neighboring hills upon being warned by someone for fear of being discovered. Sources indicated that five persons have been arrested, although their names have been withheld so as not to hinder investigations. Deputy Minister Wohlstein this report.

We were also informed that Costa Rican authorities have a list of persons who are providing financial aid to the counterrevolutionary groups. Nicaraguans and some Costa Rican citizens appear on the list. This report was neither acknowledged nor denied.

In the opinion of a Costa Rican official, the camp has been set up by counterrevolutionaries to justify the sums they received from their financiers; until now there is no evidence that the counterrevolutionaries possess any powerful weapons. Nevertheless, the results of the meeting were termed highly positive because of the commitment of each government to forbid the presence of foreign groups challenging the sovereignty of either of the two nations.

LA PRENSA NEWSMAN ABSOLVED OF BLAME, RELEASED

PA200446 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2132 GMT 18 Jan 82

[Text] Managua, 18 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- It was announced today that Mario Alfaro, a newsman for the daily LA PRENSA of Managua who was arrested last Wednesday by Nicaraguan state security authorities, was released on Sunday. Alfaro told ACAN-EFE today that he was inside the newspaper offices editing when the incidents in which two people were wounded and three arrested took place in front of the building. Alfaro said that he has been absolved of all blame in the incidents.

Initially, the authorities arrested 13 people who were at the newspaper offices when pro-Sandinist demonstrators clashed with guards at LA PRENSA. However, only the paper's two watchmen remain under arrest at present. The Interior Ministry returned control of the installations of LA PRENSA, which has resumed normal circulation, to the paper's owners on Saturday.

CARICOM SECRETARY GENERAL REPORTS ON MEETING

FL141940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1855 GMT 14 Jan 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 14 Jan (CANA) -- The Caribbean Community's (CARICOM) Common Market Council of ministers says it has gone some way towards preparing for the convening of the long-awaited heads of government conference. The 20th session of the council, which ended here late last night, helped considerably in paving the way for the CARICOM summit, according to chairman of the two-day talks, junior minister of finance in St Kitts-Nevis, Richard Caines.

The timing and venue for such a conference will now be a matter of consultation among the leaders, CARICOM secretary general, Dr Kurleigh King, told a midnight press conference. But he expressed reservations that a regional summit, not held since 1975, could take place in the first quarter of this year.

Informed sources told CANA that Antigua and Guyana had both formally offered to host the summit.

Antigua's Prime Minister Vere Bird recently stated publicly that the newly-independent state, which was the birthplace of the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA) which grew into CARICOM was keen on hosting the heads of government confab. Serious decisions were taken on the 56 recommendations of the CARICOM group of experts, which produced a blueprint for making the integration movement more dynamic in the decade of the eighties.

"Council did a fantastic job in examining all the recommendations and accepting the majority of them. In fact, no proposal at all was rejected, just deferred for later consideration," Dr King told newsmen.

The group of experts, headed by former CARICOM secretary-general William Demas, now president of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) did not recommend a change in direction for the movement, but merely a shift in emphasis, the CARICOM secretary general stressed. "One such emphasis was in connection with the elevation of joint efforts in production to the same level as trade liberalisation. The second one was to step up trade and economic relations with third countries, and thirdly to involve the people of the community more directly in its activities," Dr King noted.

Council has recommended that feasibility studies be done in a number of areas, but implementation is dependent on sanction by the member states. One of the priorities is said to be a study on the feasibility of establishing a Caribbean tour company.

"The ministers also urged member governments to encourage greater inter-regional travel, since most Caribbean nations tend to go to North America and other destinations," Dr King said. The setting up of a regional export trading company to engage in the export of non-traditional agricultural products to extra-regional markets, is also to be examined.

There was not much discussion on trade liberalisation, but council nevertheless heard of difficulties being experienced by certain member states in the implementation of the new rules of origin. "More than one member state experienced difficulty with specific products in terms of the criteria for qualifying for duty-free treatment. There are some products in which in order to qualify, the raw material would have to be manufactured in the region, and in most cases the raw materials are not yet available," Dr King explained.

Council has therefore agreed on interim measures, more or less on a bilateral basis, to ease the situation, he reported.

The ministers also agreed on an interim price increase for copra, since the oils and fats conference [was] unable to decide on the new levels.

Consideration is also being given to a review of the agricultural marketing protocol, which was being urged by Barbados.

A regional approach with respect to energy was not dealt with at any length in view of the forthcoming meeting of CARICOM energy ministers in Dominica. However, the ministers did endorse the suggestions of the Demas report which related to energy conservation, alternative sources of energy and the guarantee of supplies of petroleum within CARICOM.

"We were concerned more with coordination between national energy units which now exist and [words indistinct] the energy sector," the (?secretary) general said. [words indistinct] in the deliberations was the question of freedom of movement of Caribbean nationals. "This is one of the most sensitive areas under the treaty. In fact, some historians blame the freedom of movement of labour in the region on the floundering of the federation and many member states have reservations about the complete freedom of movement within CARICOM, Dr King said.

Member states were nevertheless urged to examine their policies on movement of both labour and capital, to ensure that more favourable treatment is given to Caribbean nationals and investment, he added.

1981 CARICOM Assistance Program

FL191701 Bridgetown CANA in English 1424 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, 19 Jan (CANA) -- Oil-rich Trinidad and Tobago says it came to the assistance of its Caribbean Community (CARICOM) partners to the tune of 255 million collars (one TT dollar; 41 cents US) during 1981 -- most of the aid allocated to offsetting the higher cost of petroleum products. An official report on this country's 1981 assistance programme said 226 million dollars in aid was disbursed to CARICOM states under an oil facility set up by the government.

The report describes the facilities as being "structured to provide for the financing of the incremental cost of petroleum products, fertilisers and asphalt purchased by Caribbean Community (CARICOM) states from Trinidad and Tobago." Guyana, Barbados, Jamaica, St Lucia, Antigua and St Kitts-Nevis were the main beneficiaries of the oil facility last year. They are permitted to service their debts under the facility by supplying commodities to Trinidad and Tabago.

Several Caribbean governments received grants and loans under the assistance programme. The money is channeled through this country's Caribbean Intergration Fund, which had 279 million dollars in assets at the start of 1981. The governments of St Vincent. Jamaica, St Kitts-Nevis, Dominica and Barbados as well as Caribbean Development Bank benefitted last year under this scheme.

St Vincent received 997,000 dollars to repair damage caused by the eruption of the Soufriere volcano, and 990,000 dollars to buy the local Forres Park sugar factory for the revival of the industry there. Jamaica was granted 325,000 dollars to repair damage wrought the previous year by Hurricane Allen. The money was for the banana industry, fishing, housing, emergency shelters and medical supplies. Just under 21,000 dollars of the original grant of 347,000 dollars remains to be disbursed in 1982.

In May last year, cabinet approved a loan of 12 million dollars to Dominica for its development programme. Some 2.1 million dollars of that sum was given out by the end of the year. A joint venture cement plant between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados costing 163 million dollars was finalised in 1981, and during the year this country paid 16.9 million dollars of its 53 million dollars share of the project. The 30,000 tonnes plant is expected to satisfy the clinker needs of both countries when completed in 1984.

A 3.6 million dollar loan to the Government of St Kitts-Nevis for the completion of a deep water harbour in Basseterre, St Kitts, was fully disbursed last year. Among other facilities provided by the port will be improved sugar handling capacity. CDB benefitted from a token 242,000 dollars grant to the banks technical assistance fund, and a 2.6 million dollars subscription to increase the institutions paid up capital. Trinidad and Tobago will continue to subscribe additional paid up capital for another six years.

There are several other projects being assisted through the Caribbean Integration Fund, though not all of them received money in 1981. These schemes include the CARICOM corn and soya bean company in Guyana, the Fund for Emergency Assistance to the Windward and Leeward Islands, the supply of generating equipment to Antigua and emergency relief to Dominica after Hurricane David.

In addition, the fund is involved in helping St Vincent re-establish its sugar industry, assisting Antigua to pay for factory shells and in providing emergency flood relief for Jamaica. Funding has also been given for a legislative drafting course at the University of the West Indies, Barbados and financial assistance to the Barbados Government for simultaneous interpretation equipment.

OECS ISSUES COMMUNIQUE AT MEETING'S END

FL181400 Bridgetown CANA in English 1530 GMT 17 Jan 82

[By Dennis Sehon]

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, 17 Jan (CANA) -- The seven-member Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) has appointed its administrative heads and agreed to co-ordinate plans for a regional coast guard service among matters adopted after two days of ministerial discussions here. A communique issued at the end of the meeting said the organization agreed that Dr Vaughn Lewis, corrently the director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) at the University of the West Indies (UWI), would be appointed its director-general.

It was also agreed that Agustus Compton, the executive secretary of the former West Indies Associated States (WISA) Secretariat be appointed director of administration and Synbourne Lestrade, author of a report on special mechanisms for the smaller Caribbean states assumed the post of director of the economic affairs division.

On the matter of conciliation commission, to be appointed in the event of disputes on the terms of the OECS treaty between two or more states, the OECS agreed that member states would make nominations for a panel of jurists to form the commission. The communique said that the nominees should be barristers with not less than 10 years experience.

It also said that the authority met with representatives of the World Bank on the establishment of an inter-agency mission to be located in Antigua to assist member states with the preparation of development programmes and projects. The communique said that the authority welcomed the decision to locate the inter-agency in a lesser developed country and stressed the urgency of its establishment. The communique added that the question of seasonal workers from the Caribbean in Canada was also discussed and the authority agreed to conduct a study of the conditions of employment of these workers to ensure that these conditions were satisfactory.

The communique said that the authority also agreed to seek a 14 percent increase in the quota of workers from the member states of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States for the Canadian seasonal workers programme. It was also agreed by the member states of the OECS, that Anguilla would participate in this programme.

The communique noted that the authority agreed on measures to be taken for the establishment of uniform petroleum pricing policies within the OECS and for the procurement of crude oil on a joint basis for the refinery in Antigua.

It added that the meeting reaffirmed that while individual member states were taking steps to establish a respective coast guard service for the member states of the organisation, it was decided that a co-ordinated approach would also be adopted to provide a regional coast guard service for the OECS.

It was decided that the West Indies Associated States Supreme Court would soon be restructured to be the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court to reflect the change in constitutional status of the majority of member states.

The communique said that authority was concerned about the need to involve the people of the member states in the development of the organisation and agreed that a competition would be launched throughout member states to obtain a symbol for the OECS which embodied its objectives and ideals.

It noted that the duration of the competition would be three months and the symbol would be used as the official standard and logo of the OECS.

The communique added that the authority expressed the desire to unveil the symbol of the first anniversary of the OECS treaty on July 4 this year.

The meeting, a continuation of the first which was held in December in St Lucia, brought together two heads of government and government ministers.

The only state not represented by a ministerial delegation was St Lucia, which was represented by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs permanent secretary, Early Huntley.

GRENADA FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMMENTS ON OECS

FL192200 Bridgetown CANA in English 2045 GMT 19 Jan 82

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, 19 Jan (CANA) -- Grenada's Foreign Minister, Unison Whiteman, has said that he does not see ideological pluralism causing a problem to the functioning of the seven-nation organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in which it is the only leftist government. "....Once we begin on the acceptance of the principle that each of the individual member states can choose its own path, then there is no problem", said Whiteman, who arrived here to attend an OECS meeting.

He charged that if member countries of the OECS were to put each individual territory into a straight jacket, insisting that they all take the same path to development, there will be problems. Whiteman said that at the moment he did not see this question causing any problems to the organisation.

The Grenada foreign minister pointed out that as far as he was concerned, there is general agreement among the member countries on the issue of political ideology.

Grenada swung from right to left in March, 1979 when the Eric Gairy government was overthrown by the New Jewel Movement (NJM), a former opposition party. The government now has close ties with Cuba.

On the OECS, Whiteman said: "I feel that there is a great spirit of commitment by the member states of the OECS to solving the problems of the region, the chronic problems of poverty, and I am convinced that the future of the OECS is bright."

He noted that the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in St Georges was committed to seeing the organisation work in the interest of the member states and the wider Caribbean.